



# PRAIRIE RESEARCH INSTITUTE



**Brian Anderson, Interim**  
*Executive Director*

**Geoff Levin, Acting**  
*Natural History Survey*

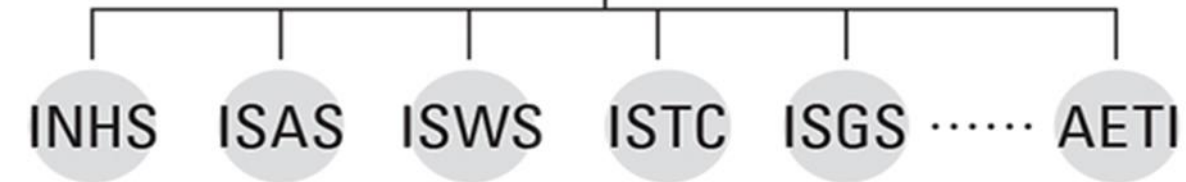
**Tom Emerson**  
*State Archaeological Survey*

**Mike Demissie**  
*State Water Survey*

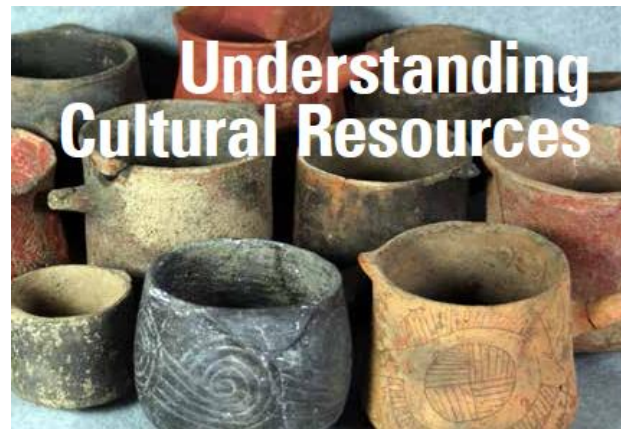
**Kevin O'Brien**  
*Sustainable Technology Center*

**Dick Berg, Interim**  
*State Geological Survey*

**Rob Finley**  
*Advanced Energy Technology Initiative*







# Principles of Foundation Funding

- Generally do not fund government agencies
- Community foundations exist to handle money to improve municipalities and counties
- Each has a unique focus – unique clients – you must provide value to their clients!
- Databases can help assess if a foundation is the right fit for your project (e.g., [Foundation Center](#), [Foundation Directory On-line](#))
- Build relationships with current and prospective funders, particularly program officers; cold calls or LOIs seldom work

# Principles continued

- Family foundations often have limited scope (e.g., Lumpkin , east central Illinois; Donnelly Foundation, NE Illinois; Chicago region)
- Corporate foundations (John Deere, Caterpillar, Boeing, etc.)
- Sometimes better to seek direct funding to support their clients rather than to submit an application to their grant program
- Takes time and persistence to develop relationships
- Sometimes their funding is committed 2 years out

# University of Illinois Office of Foundation Relations

- List of foundation funders by interest area
- Databases and tools
- **PROSPECT-MANAGED FOUNDATIONS** - maintains a working relationships with 47 foundations including:
  - Carnegie Corporation of New York
  - Ford Foundation
  - Illinois Clean Energy Community Foundation
  - John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation
  - Rockefeller Foundation

# Abbott Laboratories Fund

Abbott Fund invests in creative ideas that promote science, expand access to health care, and **strengthen communities** worldwide. In partnership with others, we strive to make a lasting impact on people's lives and encourage others to action. We support and partner with a broad range of organizations, including community-based charities, academic institutions, medical and health professional associations, international relief agencies...

**When natural disasters and emergencies strike communities, the Abbott Fund responds with grants to trusted humanitarian relief partners. Grants are directed to both immediate needs and longer-term reconstruction and rehabilitation efforts.**

**Our partners encompass the best in humanitarian organizations**



# Motorola Solutions Foundation - Schaumburg

- Total giving: \$15,370,376 (CY 2013)
- **Purpose and Activities** - The Motorola Solutions Foundation focuses its funding on education, especially science, technology, engineering, and math programming; public safety; disaster relief and preparedness; and employee involvement.
- **Public Safety Grants** - The foundation provides safety education and training programs to first responders, their families, and the general public. Special emphasis is directed toward professional development, training, and wellness programs for first responders; safety training for the general public; outreach and educational programs for youth interested in fields of police service, professional and volunteer fire service, and emergency management; families of fallen first responders, including recovery support; and scholarships for public safety professionals and family members of fallen first responders. The program is limited to Tempe, AZ, San Diego, CA, Westminster, CO, Plantation, FL, Lawrenceville, GA, Schaumburg, IL, Columbia, MD, New York, NY, Farmers Branch and Houston, TX, Salt Lake City, UT, Seattle, WA, and Toronto, Canada. Grants range from \$2,500 to \$20,000.



# The John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation

- Total giving: \$218,542,721 CY2013
- **Purpose and Activities** - The John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation supports creative people and effective institutions committed to building a more just, verdant, and peaceful world. In addition to selecting the MacArthur Fellows, the foundation works to defend human rights, advance global conservation and security, make cities better places, and understand how technology is affecting children and society.
- **U.S. Programs** - These programs address issues in the United States, including community and economic development; housing, with a focus on the preservation of affordable rental housing; juvenile justice reform; education, with a focus on digital media and learning; and policy research and analysis on issues such as the implications of an aging society, America's fiscal future, and the use of economic analysis in policy making.
- Katie Barnes, Prog. Off., Conservation and Sustainable Devel.
- Maurice Classen, Prog. Off., Community and Economic Devel.
- Steve Cornelius, Prog. Off., Conservation and Sustainable Devel.
- Others

# Grand Victoria Foundation

- Total giving: \$6,334,763 CY2013
- Giving limited to the Chicago metropolitan region, Elgin, and Boone, Cook, DuPage, Kane, Kendall, Lane, McHenry, Will, and Winnebago counties.
- **Purpose and Activities** - The foundation supports programs designed to strengthen educational opportunities for children and adults; foster economic vitality of neighborhoods, cities, and regions; and restore and preserve natural resources.
- **Core Grants - Land and Water Conservation** - The foundation supports programs designed to conserve land and water resources and support human, wildlife, and habitat health. Special emphasis is directed toward connected land and waterways that are ecologically high functioning; public policies for land and water conservation; stewardship and conservation practices that promote healthy and resilient landscapes; organizations that are well positioned to influence change and coordinate work across sectors; and resources and actions that are aligned to maximize land and water health.
- **Vital Lands Illinois** - This program supports acquisition of vitally important and irreplaceable natural landscapes across Illinois to create a statewide system of permanently protected natural lands, ensure their long-term stewardship, and build public support for conservation.

# Caterpillar Foundation

- Total giving: \$55,998,836 (CY2013)
- Giving primarily in areas of company operations in Aurora, Decatur, Joliet, and Pontiac, IL, with emphasis on Peoria, IL.
- **Purpose and Activities** - The foundation supports programs designed to promote education, the environment, and emergency relief. Special emphasis is directed toward programs designed to spiral poverty into a path to prosperity through women and girls.
- **Emergency Relief** - The foundation supports programs designed to provide basic human need. Special emphasis is directed toward food; water; shelter; and disaster relief.
- **Environment** - The foundation supports programs designed to protect and preserve the environment while building local economies. Special emphasis is directed toward natural resource management.

# Walton Family Foundation

- Environment - **Freshwater Conservation**
- Our work in the Mississippi valley focuses on improving water quality, riverside lands and infrastructure. We collaborate with local farmers to find win-win approaches to reduce agriculture's impacts on water quality and wildlife habitats. Other projects seek to implement ecosystem restoration approaches that create jobs and revitalize the region's economy.
- **\$17, 772,209**



# Other Foundations of Interest & Discussion

- Gaylord and Dorothy Donnelly Foundation just added Chicago water issues as an area of support
- You know your donors best
- Others?
- What can we do collectively?
  - Identify common interests
  - Research foundations
- Avoid compiling a list of several hundred "pie-in-the-sky" prospects and sending off a mass mailing of your proposal. Approaching a funder for support is a highly individualized process that should be conducted in a businesslike manner.